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August 8, 1963 - Thursday

We left the Guidecca in Venice this morning with intense regret, after embracing the Trees and the delightful Italian maids in the house. Marietta [redacted] went [redacted] off earlier to Paris, while Ronnie and the two children are to fly later in the day to Rome on their way to Portugal.

We had an eventless two-hour flight to London Airport, where the temperature was 20 degrees lower than [redacted] in Venice. I went to the office and almost froze to death.

Tonight, Virginia Surtees dined with us.

August 9, 1963 - Friday

There were many things to be done today, but the accumulation of mail and telegrams was less than I [redacted] anticipated. Dean Rusk is still in Russia, Macmillan is travelling in Finland and Sweden, the Parliament is not sitting, all of which are factors accounting for a comparative quietude in London diplomatic life.

Pam and Michael Berry, and Eldon Griffiths of Newsweek, came to lunch with us. Evangeline called Kay Graham in Washington last night, but found that after Phil's funeral she had gone off to join her mother in the Black Sea. I shall be seeing her here later in the month. I sent her the following letter today:

I have received word from Washington, telling me of my assignment to the 1963 Selection Board, which commences its sittings on September 11.

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August 11, 1963 - Sunday

I shot off this morning by plane to Edinburgh, sorrowfully leaving E and Nicky behind in Regent's Park. They are going home next Wednesday to rally Sasha and David into the family complex, at a house we have taken near Osterville on Cape Cod. Sasha is about to return from her St. Timothy's Latin American seminar. It must have been a whirlwind tour, for the postage stamps on her letters and cards represent almost every county south of the Rio Grande. David seems to have enjoyed his boys' camp; to judge from his reports, he plays tennis from sunup to sundown.

I went to Marchmont, Lady McEwen's beautiful Adam house in Berwickshire about 40 miles from the Capital. The saloon, with its glorious stucco work, is faultless; the house is gay, decorated with uncommon taste, and contains fine furniture, especially its lacquer, and a set of Charles II dolphin chairs.

Bridget and Robin McEwen, John Sebastian McEwen and a friend, Kisty, Sir Ian Moncrieffe, Lord Glentanar, and about a dozen McEwen children, including Kisty's three boys, were staying there.

After dinner, Moncrieffe politely, but emphatically, denounced American foreign policy in Egypt, Yemen and Katanga, but was amiable enough to make me an honorary member of his Puffins Club in Edinburgh; it sounds an interesting institution. He is a heraldist and historian, comely and agreeable. Glentanar, an accomplished organist, played in the huge music room, converted in 1920 from stable use.

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August 12, 1963 (Monday) to August 16, 1963 (Friday)

The grouse season, due to the severe winter, opened inauspiciously.

Motored about 150 miles to the West Coast to stay with Clare and Jamie McEwen. He is the eldest of the six brothers, and talented, as all of them are. He is a superior

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ornithologist, and accomplished painter of birds. Clare, beautiful, is having a baby. They live on his grandfather's place, Bardrochat in Ayrshire near Girvan. There are over 4000 acres of moorland and pasture. From the house one sees the Atlantic Ocean, the Island of Arran, Ailsa Craig, and Ireland. The River Stinchar, loaded with salmon and sea trout, runs through the property. There are also miles of trout fishing in a mountain burn.

This delightful couple let me roam as I wished with the gamekeeper and his son. I pursued the somewhat scanty stock of grouse, whipped the two rivers, and gambolled on the hills.

Sir Geoffrey Hughes-Ondow, Lord Lieutenant of the County, and his wife, dined one night. On another, Jamie's factor, an astonishingly good storyteller, Major Michael Burn, and his mate amused us.

On Thursday, August 15, Jamie showed me the sights of the neighborhood, despite the rain. We motored to Ayr for lunch along one of the most dramatic roads, more or less paralleling the ocean, I have ever seen. Afterwards we went to Culzean, McEwen's favorite amongst Scottish houses. It was designed by Robert Adam; its circular drawing room is perfection, as are many of its other features. Its owner, the Marquess of Ailsa, has made it over to the National Trust. The castle perches on a cliff with the Atlantic Ocean almost washing its foundation. It is huge, pleasing and impressive. We did not see the suite reserved for General Eisenhower, but it was a princely gift.

On Friday, I went back to Edinburgh, and stayed at the Caledonian Hotel, seeing many quaint, and one truly lovely (Traquair, seventeenth century house whose bear gates have never been opened since James II's time) castles on the way; invariably they have picturesque and usually tragic histories.

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I put in a busy shopping day, covering antique shops especially. Kisty and her mother came in to lunch with me and took me back to Marchmont, where we tucked into gigantic lobsters freshly caught.

August 18, 1963 - Sunday

We went over to see Mellerstain, owned by Lord Harrington. Philippe and Pauline de Rothschild are in Scotland, and want to rent this magnificent Adam house, in which the library is almost beyond compare. The Harringtons are rich and declined the offer. They live elsewhere, but Mellerstain is open to the public. I like Marchmont better, but just barely, for they are both seductive places.

At Marchmont, Cecilia and Romana McEwen had come to see their children, while their husbands, Alexander and Rory, play and sing professionally at Edinburgh during the festival. Since Sir Jock McEwen died, this united family has had a distressing uncertainty over what will happen to his valuable real estate, once the death duties have been assessed. They will do what they can to keep Marchmont and Bandrochat, but have no assurance they will be able to do so.

August 19, 1963 - Monday

Left for the airport, driven by Christian, who went on to breakfast with her brothers, then we lunched with the Rothschilds at the George Hotel in Edinburgh. The Rothschilds and I left for London at 2:30, a trip of an hour and a quarter.

At the office, big doings over the Department of Defense's demand to station at our Embassy a senior Defense representative with extensive powers. Lewis Jones and Findlay Burns [redacted] telephoned and wrote me about this when I was in Ayrshire, but the matter was too complicated for me to decide in absentia from the pertinent documents. Sent off the following telegrams tonight:

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Charge: Control: S-601

Date:

by Deputy Under Secretary Crockett on May 27, 1953 that effective June 30, 1954 the Military would terminate its administrative support to these units.

Apart from any understanding with the police authorities to stay calm and with which the Embassy must be concerned, [illegible] Defense Department and agencies on [illegible] military personnel or dependents [illegible] A number of these [illegible] the Air Force Parade [illegible] NATO Military Airlift for the Eisenhauers [illegible] Higher headquarters [illegible] by which they were supervised. I suggest that the Defense Department continue to notify all those in the whole area concerned [illegible] Air Force under Embassy guidance, United Air Force, Holiday and those with which we [illegible] Navy Department under CINCUSNAVEUR. Both these [illegible] have ample [illegible] to supply and supervise [illegible] for enlisted [illegible] units, [illegible] by Headquarters [illegible] Air Force [illegible] Air Force [illegible] Brigade [illegible] and dependents.

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Educational Institution, would be attached to the Office of the Army Attache for necessary organization and coordination.

In short, I would think that any needed improvement in coordination of all Defense Department elements here could be readily accomplished by using the two existing agencies and put the Army Attache in charge. The cost factor is no need to bring into being a special and costly coordination with additional personnel. Most of these units have existed on a quasi-autonomous basis for many years without undue major problems affecting any responsibilities. It would be an improvement to attach them formally to the Army with operating heads, but this can be done, it seems to me, without the complication of bringing into being a special Defense Department coordination unit.

[illegible]

Enclosure:

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August 20, 1963 - Tuesday

London is quiet, the traffic on the streets diminished because of the holidays. Sunny this morning with highest temperature predicted for today 64°.

Admiral Griffin came to inform me of the Defense Department decision to remove from his planning jurisdiction Africa south of the Sahara, Southeast Asia, and other areas, and to place them under command of a military planning unit in Tampa, Florida. This will mean a reduction in force of about eighty of his officers and men. I assume that this move is being made for balance of payments reasons. I have been told to comment on the probable British reaction to it. [redacted]

Lunched at Bucks. Mr. Joubert and Rev. Dr. Spencer visited me this afternoon to select a speaker for the Thanksgiving Day celebrations.

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Reached home after seven, played with the spaniels, dined, and read a mass of personal papers and letters requiring consideration and answers, until midnight.

August 21, 1963 - Wednesday

At midmorning, went to Claridges to have my hair sheared. Then next door to John Fowler's, where I indulged in large scale extravagance, the purchases including a mirror with a dissolute drinking scene panelled above it.

Tom Beale brought in three of his new economic officers, Messrs. Rush and Hall, also the recently arrived Treasury replacement for Bob Bean, Mr. Cross. I try to see all new officers as soon as possible after their arrival.

I lunched with Nancy and Harold Caccia at 1 Chester Place, and had a global talk with Harold.

I talked to Jean Monnet on the telephone this morning. He has just returned to Paris after a vacation in Switzerland. He is particularly sad over Phil Graham's death, since they were close friends. He is going to Washington in September

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or October to attend a ceremony during which the President will decorate him with the newly devised Medal of Freedom.

General Gabriel F. Dissoway, Commander-in-Chief U.S. Air Forces Europe, replacing General Landon, called on me with two other general officers. Dissoway is a tough, able man - I first knew him in Germany.

Jean Lambert came to see me. He will probably be married in late September or October. He discussed his business affairs.

The furore over frozen American poultry continues. The U.S. has announced its intention to retaliate against the Common Market countries because of their imposition of high duties on this type of poultry. It reminds me somewhat of a [redacted] memorandum I wrote on February 20, 1963, at the request of Secretary Rusk on the dangers of proceeding on Woolen Textile Restrictions. The Memorandum was as follows:

My last office activity was a descent to the basement where I met a group of about 25 new entrants in the British Foreign Office. They came here this afternoon to be briefed by Lewis Jones and others, on the operations of our Embassy.

August 22, 1963 - Thursday

Brooks Hays, for many years a Congressman from Arkansas, a genial, fine man, now serving in the White House as a Special Assistant to the President, came to see me. Amongst other things, we talked about Arkansas frozen poultry and the row over it between the U.S. and Common Market governments.

I lunched at the American Club.

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